

**Amendments to the Claims**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims**

1-40. (Canceled)

41. (Previously presented) A method of treating or preventing depression which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of didesmethylsibutramine, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, clathrate or prodrug thereof.

42. (Currently amended) The method of claim 41, wherein the didesmethylsibutramine is (R)-didesmethylsibutramine, (S)-~~didesmethylsibutramine or (R,S)-didesmethylsibutramine.~~

43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein the amount of didesmethylsibutramine administered is from about 0.1 mg to 60 mg.

44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 43, wherein the amount of didesmethylsibutramine administered is from about 2 mg to 30 mg.

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the amount of didesmethylsibutramine administered is from about 5 mg to 15 mg/day.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, wherein didesmethylsibutramine is administered orally, mucosally, rectally, parenterally, transdermally or subcutaneously.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein didesmethylsibutramine is administered orally, mucosally or transdermally.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 41, which further comprises the administration of an additional pharmacologically active compound.

49. (Currently amended) The method of claim 48, wherein the additional pharmacologically active compound is ~~a drug that affects the central nervous system, wherein the drug is:~~ a selective serotonin uptake inhibitor; a 5-HT agonist or antagonist; a hypnotic or a sedative; a drug useful in treating psychiatric disorder; a CNS stimulant; ~~or~~ a dopamine receptor antagonist; ~~an antimonie agent; an antipanic agent; a cardiovascular agent; an antiviral; an antibiotic; an antifungal; or an antineoplastic agent.~~

50. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the didesmethylsibutramine is (S)-didesmethylsibutramine.

51. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein the didesmethylsibutramine is (R,S)-didesmethylsibutramine.